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A.

ALED RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(WILLIAM McKENDRICK, M.D., D.P.H.)

WHICH INCLUDES THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(F. J. LEVESLEY, M.A.P.H.I.)

FOR THE YEAR

1958

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FOR THE YEAR

1958

RHYL:
W. N. Douglas & Co., Ltd., 31 Sussex Street.

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Chairman:
Councillor Watkin Lloyd, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman:
Councillor Robert Roberts, C.C., Llansannan.

Abergele Rural:
Councillors Edward Jones (to April, 1958), G. O. Wynne, Morris Jones, T. Morris (from Sept., 1958).

Betws-yn-Rhos:
Councillors E. O. Jones and W. Ellis Davies.

Bylchau:
Councillors E. K. H. Turnour and W. Price Roberts

Cefn:
Councillor O. J. Rees.

Llanelian:
Councillor Elphin O. Jones.

Llanfairtalhaearn:
Councillors Watkin Lloyd, William Jones and J. Jones (from June, 1958).

Llansannan:
Councillors Robert Roberts, Glyn Griffiths and D. Mars Jones.

Llannefydd:
Councillors John Salusbury and Richard Pritchard.

Glan Conway:
Councillors Miss J. Hughes, W. R. Evans, C.C., Victor Williams and R. A. K. Turner (from Sept., 1958).

Trefnant:
Councillors Robert Roberts (to April, 1958), J. Franklin Morris, J. A. P. Jones, J.P. (from Sept., 1958).

Medical Officer of Health:
Dr. William McKendrick, M.D., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:
F. J. Levesley, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat and Other Foods, Cert. Institute of Housing.

ALED RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
16 WOODLAND ROAD EAST,
COLWYN BAY.

24th July, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members,
Aled Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Miss Hughes, and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my report on the health of residents in the Aled during 1958.

The report follows the requirements of the Minister of Health and incorporates the report of the Public Health Inspector.

The year was not marked by any unusual incident. As the statistics show, the birth rate has increased and the death rate fallen. Apart from an outbreak of measles, infectious disease was scarce.

In housing, the Aled has, in recent years, been progressive. The call for re-housing of inhabitants is not great. Indeed, in most Parishes there is no need for building. The policy of giving improvement grants has been effective—many houses that seemed to have outlived their day have been converted into most desirable residences. Moreover, they have given modern homes without marring the countryside as so many "Council houses" do.

The call for a better water supply still rises from some parts of the area. We are told that the Llyn Colwyn scheme will be implemented soon—we have been told this before—meantime there is a serious drought.

With improved water supply comes the need for improved water disposal. I am glad to say that this has been tackled vigorously and satisfactorily.

We have had considerable worry concerning the licensing of fields as caravan sites. In 1958 there were licences permitting the stationing of 466 caravans—this number was increased to 648 by the end of 1958. Many of these are well placed and offensive neither to the health nor to the amenities of the district. Some we could do without.

As the Councillors are aware, considerable effort has been made to immunise the young people of the area against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyclitis. I am glad to say that in the Aled, the public have accepted these protections in large numbers, and the 1959 report should show that our defences are good.

Once again I have to render thanks for the willing and efficient help given me by my colleagues on the Aled Staff—all have been helpful and if I single out Mr. Levesley, it is because we are especially associated in the work of the Health Department.

Yours sincerely,

WM McKENDRICK,
Medical Officer of Health.

ALED RURAL DISTRICT

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	69,206
Population:—	
1951 Census	7,054
Registrar General's Estimate (mid-1958)	6,930
Inhabited Houses	2,230
Rateable Value	£51,276
Produet of a Penny Rate	£207

LIVE BIRTHS.

	Male	Female	Total
Total	42	60	102
Legitimate	40	57	97
Illegitimate	2	3	5

STILL BIRTHS.

	Male	Female	Total
Total	1	1	2
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—

INFANT DEATHS

	Male	Female	Total
Total	1	2	3
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—

(All were under 4 weeks of age).

DEATHS.

	Male	Female	Total
Total	33	35	68

RATES.

Birth Rate per 1,000 population:—	
(a) Crude	14.8
(b) Corrected	16.3
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	0.28
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	29.4
Death Rate per 1,000 population:—	
(a) Crude	9.8
(b) Correeted	10.6
Comparability figure for births	1.10
Comparability figure for deaths	1.08

The following table shows the vital statistics for the past eight years:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Population	7139	7149	7056	7060	7030	6990	6930	6930
Live Births... ...	103	116	92	90	81	86	91	102
Birth Rate	15.3	14.7	13.8	14.1	12.7	13.6	14.4	16.3
Still Births... ...	3	2	2	3	2	0	2	2
Still Birth Rate	0.42	0.28	0.28	0.42	0.28	0.0	0.28	0.28
Deaths	89	76	67	74	90	69	76	68
Death Rate	11.2	11.2	8.3	10.3	12.6	10.6	11.7	10.6
Infant Deaths ...	5	3	2	1	2	3	0	3
Infant Death Rate	47	26	21	11	25	35	0	29.4

The population seems to have remained stationary in spite of the fact that births have exceeded deaths by an average of twenty each year for the past ten years.

There were three infant deaths during the year accredited to the Aled—I know of two of these.

The causes of death were as follows:—

	Male		Female		Total
Measles	0	...	1	...	1
Other infective diseases...	0	...	1	...	1
Cancer:					
Stomach	2	...	1	...	3
Lung	0	...	1	...	1
Other	3	...	2	...	5
Leukaemia	0	...	1	...	1
Vascular lesions	5	...	9	...	14
Coronary disease	10	...	2	...	12
Other heart disease	1	...	6	...	7
Other circulatory disease	2	...	4	...	6
Pneumonia	2	...	0	...	2
Bronchitis	0	...	1	...	1
Ulcer of stomach, etc. ...	2	...	0	...	2
Gastritis, etc.	1	...	0	...	1
Other ill-defined diseases	4	...	4	...	8
Suicide	0	...	2	...	2
Homicide	1	...	0	...	1
	33	...	35	...	68

These are the 68 deaths considered by the Registrar General as properly allocated to this district. I have records of 78 deaths—of these 48 actually occurred in the district and 30 occurred in nearby hospitals. Ten of the 48 were not residents.

Deaths of residents in Parishes were:—

	Male		Female		Total
Abergele	6	...	0	...	6
Bylchau	2	...	3	...	5
Betws-yn-Rhos	2	...	2	...	4
Cefn Meiriadog	0	...	2	...	2
Llanelian	2	...	0	...	2
Llanfair T.H.	5	...	3	...	8
Llansannan	5	...	7	...	12
Llannefydd	5	...	4	...	9
Glan Conway	9	...	14	...	23
Trefnant	3	...	3	...	6
Trofarth	0	...	1	...	1

The ages at which deaths occurred were:—

	Male		Female		Total
0— 1	0	...	2	...	2
1—24	1	...	1	...	2
25—34	0	...	0	...	0
35—54	5	...	2	...	7
55—64	1	...	3	...	4
65 and over	32	...	31	...	63
	39	...	39	...	78

Almost 81% of these deaths concerned persons over 65 years of age.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(1) Laboratory Services.

(a) **Bacteriology.**—34 samples of water, 16 of milk and 4 of ice cream, were taken to the Public Health Laboratory, Conway, by the Public Heath Inspector. There they were examined for bacterial content. This service is very valuable as by it we can keep careful and constant check on the safety of foods. Although the items were thus limited, there is no restriction on either the number nor the type of articles sent. Dr. Kingsley Smith and his staff have been most generous in their assistance.

Doctors may send throat and nose swabs, faeces, urine, cerebrospinal fluid, blood, etc., for examination and report.

Here, too, are stored many vaccines, sera, etc., that are not in frequent demand, but that may be wanted quickly—e.g., measles antisera (Gamma Globalin), anti-tetani serum, anti-snake venom, etc.

(b) **Pathological and Biochemical.**—Specimens likely to help in the diagnosis of disease are examined as to structure and chemical constitution at the Laboratory of the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl—if sent by doctors.

(c) **Chemical.**—Foods are analysed for purity at the Assay Office, Chester. This is done by the Foods and Drugs Inspector of the Denbigh County Council, who shares my office at Colwyn Bay, and who is at all times most helpful.

(d) **Water Supply.**—Water is examined both chemically and bacteriologically.

(i) Chemical analysis reveals the presence of poisons and risk of contamination—e.g., the presence of organic matters likely to have been added by animals, etc. The presence of such substances in the water does not necessarily denote existing danger, but shows undesirable contamination which may, at any time, contain infective germs which have, at some time in the past, entered or are now entering the water.

Tests are done by the Public Analyst at the Assay Office, Chester.

(ii) Bacteriological Tests are done at the Public Health Laboratory, Conway. They show that the water is either pure or is, at the time of sampling, dangerous, in that it contains organisms excreted by animals or humans.

As will be seen 47 such tests were made during 1958. Water from other areas—Rhyl or Cowlyd—were examined at their source.

(iii) Chlorination Tests show whether the chlorine added to the water at the works has all been absorbed or whether it is excessive. They are applied by the Water Engineer and his staff at distribution points and serve as a very useful test of the purification method.

(e) **Milk Supply.**—Milk is tested for adulteration (Chemical Test) by the Food and Drugs Officer to the Denbigh County Council.

Designated milks are the responsibility of the County Public Health Inspector. He tests them at their point of production.

The Aled Public Health Inspector takes samples at the point of delivery (homes, etc.), and has tests made as to keeping quality.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(i) **Infectious Diseases.**—There is an ambulance—provided by the County Council—stationed at the Isolation Hospital, Colwyn Bay, and is reserved for the conveyance of infectious diseases to hospital.

(ii) **Non-Infectious Diseases.**—There are seven ambulances provided by the Denbighshire County Council to and from hospital. I must stress that (except in case of accidents) transport is only provided when a doctor certifies in writing that there is medical need. An Ambulance or Sitting Case car must not be provided merely because a Clinic appointment is not perfectly timed to suit a bus service. Nor can transport be provided because a patient—or his friends—object to paying a bus fare; provision, through the National Assistance Officer, is made for the refund of fares where that is proper.

Doctors should request transport from me at 16 Woodland Road East, Colwyn Bay. Tel. 3387 (or Colwyn Bay 2727 outside office hours).

NURSING IN THE HOME.

1.—Nurses are provided by the County Council for the treatment of sick persons in their home. These nurses, who are resident in the villages, act on the instructions of the family doctor.

2.—Home Helps are women who are sent to help in the management of homes while the housewife is incapacitated. They are provided by the County Council and the Health Visitors are responsible for making suitable arrangements

and supervising this work. This service is not provided free —a charge is made that varies with the family income.

CLINICS.

Glan Conway:

Alternate Mondays at 2 p.m. at the Church House.

Colwyn Bay (at the Clinic, Nant-y-Glyn Road, Colwyn Bay):
Mondays: Family Planning Clinic at 2.30 each week.
Tuesdays: Child Welfare Centre at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. each week.
Wednesdays: Toddlers' Clinic at 2 p.m. (alternate weeks or by arrangement). Ophthalmic Clinic (by arrangement). E.N.T. Clinic (by arrangement).
Thursdays: Orthopaedic Clinic at 10 a.m. (alternate weeks).
Fridays: Ante-Natal Clinics at 2 p.m. (alternate weeks).

Llysfaen:

Alternate Mondays at 2 p.m. at the Church House. Child Welfare.

Llanddulas:

Alternate Mondays at 2 p.m. at the Beulah Schoolroom. Child Welfare.

Mochdre:

Alternate Mondays at 2 p.m. at the Village Centre. Child Welfare.

Llangerniew:

Once each month on a Thursday at 2 p.m.

Llansannan:

Once each month on a Thursday at 2 p.m.

Abergele:

Every Thursday at 2 p.m. at Child Welfare Centre, Pentre Mawr, Abergele.

Denbigh:

Child Welfare Centre at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Wednesdays. Ante-Natal Clinic at 10 a.m. on alternate Wednesdays. Orthopaedic Clinic at 10 a.m. on first and third Wednesdays. (These are all held at the Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh).

DAY NURSERY.

There is no day nursery in the area.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

These diseases are treated as follows:—

1.—**Llandudno and District Hospital:** Every Thursday at 2 p.m. Afternoons—Females, Evenings—Males.

2.—**Chester Royal Infirmary** (Out-Patients' Department): Males—Mondays, 5—7 p.m. Saturdays, noon. Females—Mondays, 5—7 p.m. Thursdays, 5—7 p.m.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The following statement, given me by Mr. T. H. Evans, Chief Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act to the Denbigh County Council, shows the work done to prevent adulteration of food sold in the area:—

Particulars of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act in Aled Rural District during the year ended 31st December, 1958.

Article	No. taken		Genuine		Not Genuine, or Sub-standard
Milk	15	...	15	...	—
Bread	1	...	1	...	—
Jam	1	...	1	...	—
Tinned Carrots... ...	1	...	1	...	—
Sausages	1	...	1	...	—
Mustard	1	...	1	...	—
Ice Cream	1	...	1	...	—
Beer	1	...	1	...	—
Total...	22	...	22	...	—

All the samples were certified by the Public Analyst to be genuine and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

(Signed) THOS. H. EVANS,
Chief Inspector,
County of Denbigh.

17 Vicarage Hill,
Wrexham.
29th April, 1959.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

Smallpox.—47 children were vaccinated against smallpox during 1958. About 50% of children under 1 year old were so protected.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.—26 children received the primary course of injections against whooping cough and diphtheria. This is a very unsatisfactory number but may be accounted for by the large number who were inoculated against poliomyelitis. Our propaganda was directed towards this latter disease.

Poliomyelitis.—497 persons under 15 years of age were given two injections against poliomyelitis in 1958. This is quite good. The public did not awaken to the value of this service until 1959.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease in during 1958:—

Cases notified	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over
Measles	63	1	23	18	21	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Acute Primary Pneumonia	4	0	0	2	0	2	0	0
Pulmonary T.B....	5	0	0	0	0	2	1	2
Non-Pulmonary T.B. ...	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Scarlet Fever	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	79	1	25	23	22	4	2	2

In 1957 there were 18 cases of infection. In 1958 there were 63 cases of measles—with one death. I would stress this last fact. Parents are too apt to regard measles as a trivial childhood ailment—it does cause death. Moreover, it is not mainly a disease of childhood—21 of the cases were over school age.

It has not been necessary to take action against any person suffering from tuberculosis who was either handling milk or without proper shelter. Seven new cases were notified during the year and no deaths. These were distributed as follows:—

	New Cases during Year				
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary	
Age Periods	M	F		M	F
0— 1	0	0	...	0	0
1— 4	0	0	...	0	0
5— 9	0	0	...	0	0
15—19	0	0	...	0	0
20—24	0	0	...	0	1
25—34	0	1	...	0	0
35—44	1	0	...	0	0
45—54	0	0	...	0	1
55—64	0	1	...	0	0
Over 65	1	1	...	0	0
Totals	2	3	...	0	2

The state of the Tuberculosis Register at the beginning and end of the year was as follows:—

On Register 1/1/58.		On Register 31/12/58	
Pulmonary:		Pulmonary:	
Male	19	Male	16
Female	23	Female	24
Non-Pulmonary:		Non-Pulmonary:	
Male	4	Male	4
Female	3	Female	5
	49		49

Thus "new cases" balanced "recovered."

The Mass X-Ray Unit did not visit the area in 1958—it will visit all districts in July, 1959.

WATER.

Glan Conway.—I am in receipt of the following statement from Mr. J. M. Campbell, B.Sc.Tech., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E., Engineer to the Conway and Colwyn Bay Water Supply Board, on the water supply to this area:—

The following are the records of the rainfall at Cowlyd Lake and the consumption of water within the Parish of Llansantffraid (Glan Conway) during the year 1958:—

Rainfall

Month	Inches		No. of days with 0.01 ins. or more
January	12.32	...	18
February	15.53	...	18
March	2.89	...	12
April	2.30	...	8
May	8.27	...	20
June	3.83	...	13
July	7.62	...	13
August	5.57	...	20
September	9.60	...	16
October	7.28	...	16
November	3.34	...	11
December	4.77	...	14
Total	83.32	...	179

Consumption of Water.

January	1,680,200
February	1,688,400
March	1,990,200
April	2,025,000
May	1,962,300
June	1,419,000
July	1,460,100
August	1,488,000
September	1,296,000
October	1,246,200
November	1,224,000
December	1,450,800
	18,930,200

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. M. CAMPBELL,
Engineer.

26th April, 1959.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Bylchau and District Water Supply.—This supply continues to be satisfactory. Discolouration in certain areas has been remedied by regular flushing of the mains.

Betws-yn-Rhos.—The supply to the village from Abergele U.D.C. has been maintained and has again proved satisfactory.

Cefn and Trefnant.—Occasional shortage has again been reported from the Cefn area, but it is hoped that the scheme referred to last year will be completed by the end of 1959, and should effect a permanent improvement.

Glan Conway.—The need for a piped supply to the upper levels in this area remains.

Llanelian.—No definite date is yet available for the commencement of the scheme to supply this area, which includes Llwydgoed School.

General.—It is well known that large areas of the district are still dependent on spring and well water. The Llyn Conwy Water Board, now established and in its second year of activity, should be the means of bringing to fruition the long awaited scheme of supplying water to the dry areas. The urgency in this connection cannot be too strongly stressed from a public health point of view. Grants are now available from various sources for owners of houses to provide modern amenities, such as baths, and drainage in their properties. These can only be satisfactorily provided where an abundant supply of pure water is available.

Every effort should be made to induce householders to make full use of a main supply of water when one becomes available. Too frequently one feels that such main supplies are used to supplement existing supplies rather than to replace them.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

Number of samples taken from private supplies	22
Number of above giving satisfactory results	13
Number of private supplies investigated	30

It will be again seen that the proportion of unsatisfactory results of samples taken for bacteriological examination is high. Although much can be done to improve the condition of such water by protection of the source, a great many wells and springs are in such positions in relation to obvious sources of contamination that they cannot be relied upon to maintain a pollution-free source of water.

PUBLIC SUPPLIES.

Number of samples taken	25
Satisfactory	14
Unsatisfactory	11

Details of public water supply samples are appended.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

Date Sampled, and Name of Supply	Plate Count Yeastral Agar 2 days at 37 deg. C. per ml.	Prob. No. B. Coli MacConkey 2 days 37 deg. C. per 100 ml.	Prob. No. E. Coli per 100 ml.	Remarks
Llanfair T.H.:				
14/4/58	6	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
23/4/58	1	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
10/6/58	2	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
29/7/58	5	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
17/9/58	7	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
24/9/58 (Bodran)	100+	7	7	Small No. Bact Coli.
24/9/58 (Bodran)	300+	1800+	1800+	Heavily contaminated.
29/10/58	2	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
18/11/58	5	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
Betws-yn-Rhos:				
10/6/58	1	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
20/8/58	5	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
Llannefydd:				
14/4/58	7	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
20/8/58	5	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
Bryn Ewin Supply:				
10/6/58	300	1800	1800	Heavily contaminated.
18/6/58	300	250	250	Considerably contaminated.
18/6/58	300	250	250	Considerably contaminated.
24/6/58	24	8	8	Slightly contaminated.
24/6/58	112	80	80	Moderately contaminated.
8/7/58	56	25	25	Moderately contaminated.
29/7/58	11	0	0	Satisfactory.
18/11/58	200	50	50	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
26/11/58	10	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
Llansannan:				
29/10/58	3	0	0	Class 1. Satisfactory.
Dolwen Supply:				
8/7/58	56	25	13	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.
17/9/58	300	1800	900	Class 4. Unsatisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No new sewerage works were undertaken during the year. Reports of samples from two effluents are shown below. Certain minor works were found to be necessary at Trefnant which effected an improvement in the quality of the effluent.

Trefnant Sewerage Works.

Certificate of Analysis.

Dissolved Oxygen taken up in 5 days at 65°F (B.O.D.)	4.5
Suspended matter	6.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hrs. at 80°F	1.67
Chlorine in Chlorides	5.9
Reaction pH	7.3
Stability Test (Methylene Blue 5 days)	Unsatisfac'y
Free and Saline Ammonia	1.50
Appearance	Sl. Brown, sl. turpid
Odour	Very sl. unpleasant

Remarks: The figures for the B.O.D. and Suspended matter are high. Improvement in this effluent is necessary.

Llanfair T.H. Sewerage Works.

Dissolved Oxygen taken up in 5 days at 65°F	1.0
Suspended matter	2.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hrs. at 80°F	0.31
Chroline in Chlorides	2.6
Raction pH	6.5
Stability Test (Methelyne Blue 5 days)	Satisfac'y
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.40
Appearance	Colourless clear
Odour	Nil

Remarks: This is a satisfactory Sewage Effluent, it is fit to discharge into a stream.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

Collections	Fortnightly
Number of Ashbins collected	1,506
Total number of loads removed	509
Total Mileage covered	12,000
Total cost of service	£2,023
Cost per load	£3/19/6
Cost per collection	1/0.4
Number of vehicles used	1
Men regularly employed	3
Number of tip sites	1
Average miles per gallon	15

It will be noted that, although the number of collections continues to increase, the costs of collection and disposal have remained fairly constant. This is largely due to the use of diesel engined collecting vehicle of larger carrying capacity, and consequent running economy.

Tip maintainance has been satisfactory, and has been carried out at small expense. There were no infestations of vermin of any kind on the tip. Large numbers of wasps settled on the tip for a short period, but these were dealt with by insecticidal spraying.

There was a considerable increase in the number of calls for a collection service to farms. Wherever possible, these are being complied with, but it is sometimes necessary to ask for the ashbins to be carried to the farm gates by the occupiers.

RETAIL MILK SUPPLIES.

Visits and Inspections	12
Registered Distributors	9
Supplementary Licences	5

Results of Samples.—12 samples of heat-treated milk were taken and found to be satisfactory. 7 samples of Tubereulin Tested milk were also tested and found satisfaetory.

It is possible that the Aled area will shortly become an area in which all milk sold by retail must be designated milk, i.e., pasteurised, sterilised or tuberculin tested. It is doubtful that any objection will be made to this order becoming effective as, at present, only designated milk is retailed in the district.

Two complaints only were received in respect of milk supplied and these had to do with the condition of bottles. Both complaints were fully investigated with the full co-operation of the suppliers concerned and no recommendation was made to the Council for statutory action to be taken.

ICE CREAM.

Number of premises registed for the sale of ice eream ...	16
Number registered for manufaeture of ice eream	Nil
Nw registrations during year	3
Samples taken	4
Samples reported in Category 1.	4

FOOD SHOPS AND LICENSED PREMISES.

Number of food shops	27
Number of licensed premises	12
Number of inspections	51

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS.

No statutory action has been required under the above regulations. A number of premises do not yet comply with the requirements, but enforcement action will not be taken until such time as electricity is available. As such supplies are now imminent throughout the area, it is not considered reasonable to require alternative means of water heating to be installed. When electricity is generally available it will be comparatively inexpensive for all shops to provide a constant supply of hot water.

Refrigeration is becoming an accepted part of most shops, and this, too, will extend with the electricity services.

UNSOUND FOOD.

During the year the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered:—

75 tins meat. 48lb. smoked haddock. 10lbs. minced beef.

SCHOOLS.

Number of schools in district	13
Number of inspections	8
Private Schools	2

CARAVAN SITES (Sec. 268 Public Health Act, 1936).

Caravan Sites licensed during year (Planning Consent refused in both cases).	2
Total number of sites in area	11
Total individual licences	42
Total number of caravans covered by above licences	648

It was necessary to make over 60 visits and inspections in connection with caravans during the year, which again showed a steadily increasing demand for licences.

The Council submitted byelaws, framed to give additional power of control, to the Ministry of Health during the year, but approval was refused. The byelaws contained provisions aimed at securing good sanitary conditions, which it was felt required byelaw powers over matter not covered by the conditions of licence.

Nothing was proposed which has not been carried out voluntarily by the best site owners in the district.

The need for statutory action, however, in connection with established sites was fortunately not required during the year. Site owners have co-operated in every way towards improving their sites. It is becoming apparent that once it has been decided to issue a licence, sufficient numbers of caravans should be allowed to enable the site owner to derive sufficient income from lettings to enable him to carry out the necessary work essential towards securing a satisfactory site.

The delay in taking enforcement action when consent under the Town and Country Planning Acts has been refused is another matter which hinders proper control. It is not felt reasonable to take action under the Public Health Acts when it is known that enforcement action by the Planning Authorities is pending.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Number of licences to slaughter issued	8
Number of licensed slaughterhouses	2
Number of Knackers' Yards	1

The above licensed slaughterhouses were all conducted properly during the year. Proposed legislation shortly to become law, will have far reaching effects on these premises, and their management. At the moment it is not anticipated that any closures will be required.

RODENT DESTRUCTION.

Number of farms inspected	634
Number of infestations found	61
Number of business premises inspected	42
Infestations found	15
Premises treated	29
Council properties inspected	54
Council properties treated	3

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Matters dealt with, apart from those already referred to under separate heading, were as follows:—

Complaints Received.

Food	1
Animal nuisance	3
Drainage and Sanitation	6
Private Water Supplies	3
Housing Defects	14
Refuse Accumulation	38
Rodent	20
Licensed Houses	1
Caravans	1
Public Water Supplies	3
Miscellaneous	1
	91

HOUSING ACTS, 1949-54.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Total applications approved from 7/3/50 to 31/12/58...	104
Applications received from 1/1/58 to 31/12/58	17
Total number of grant-aided schemes from 7/3/50 to 31/12/58	121
Total cash value of grant aid for period 7/3/50 to 31/12/58	£23,483
Average amount of grant per improvement	£194
Total amount of grant aid for period 1/1/58 to 31/12/58	£4,148
Average amount of grant per improvement	£244
Number of visits in connection with applications	149
Number of meetings of Improvement Grant Committee	9
Number of grants repaid during the year (relates to 1957 grant)	1

Applications for improvement grants continue to be made. During the year one grant was repaid as the applicant required the house to be freed of any conditions. One application was withdrawn before work was commenced. The type of grant aided improvement remained similar to those in previous years. The most usual being provision of drainage, with bathroom, W.C. and hot water supply. This type of improvement has generally fallen into two categories (1) where a new bathroom and, perhaps, kitchen is formed by building a small extension to the house, and (2) where existing space is utilized for this purpose, usually by partitioning

a bedroom. A grant was approved for the damp-proofing of a house by insertion of a horizontal damp-proof course. This was the first time a grant has been applied for for this purpose, and the work was successfully carried out. Most of the houses for which grant is applied are of stone which precludes this type of improvement. In stone houses, however, damp-proofing by internal rendering in waterproofed cement, and formation of a dry area is becoming more or less standard practice. The majority of the older stone houses show rising dampness and, although this cannot be eradicated as it can in brick, the work referred to above has been accepted as the best practical means of alleviating the trouble.

The assistance of the Improvement Grant Committee is again acknowledged. All applications go through this Committee before presentation to the Council, and the Committee's help and advice has been invaluable.

HOUSING CONDITIONS GENERALLY.

HOUSING IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:—

(1) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 11 Housing Act, 1936 3

2.—Unfit Houses closed:—

(1) Under Sec. 11. Housing Act, 1936, and Secs. 10 (1) and 11 (2) Local Government (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953, and Sec. 16 (4) Housing Act, 1957 6

3.—Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects remedied:—

(1) After informal action by Local Authority 30

(2) After formal action:—

(a) Public Health Act —
(b) Housing Act —

(3) Under Sec. 5 Housing Repairs and Rents Ac, 1954, and Sec. 24 Housing Act, 1957 —

4.—**Unfit Houses in temporary use:—**

(1) Housing Act, 1957, Sec. 34 or 53 —
(2) Sec. 17 (2) —

RENT ACT, 1957.

Two Certificates of Disrepair were issued during the year. In one case the defects referred to were remedied and the certificate cancelled.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

Premises	M/c line No.	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted	M/c line No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	—	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	17	14	—	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
Total...		20	18	—	—	

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	M/c line No.	Cases Found	Cases Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	M/c line No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):							
(a) Insufficient	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total...	60	—	—	—	—	—	60